

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

1. During 1954, there were very few soldiers of Russian nationality in Estonia. Most of the Army units stationed in Estonia belonged to the Estonian Corps. This Corps had Russian officers in the senior ranks, but also some Estonian officers. Most of the troops were Estonians, but some were Russians who had been called up while they were living in Estonia.

2. The Estonian Corps had barracks and camps at the following places:

a. Permanent barracks of wartime or prewar construction at Juhkentali, an urban district on the south-southwest edge of Tallinn.

b. Permanent barracks at Tondi, a suburb between Tallinn and Nõmme.

c. A camp of huts at Jägala, which is 30 kilometers east of Tallinn on the road to Tartu. The camp covers several square kilometers on the south side of the road. About 20 new barrack huts were built there at the end of 1954, each designed to hold about 40 men.

d. A similar camp area at Aegviidu, which is 30 kilometers east-south-east of Jägala on the Tallinn-Tartu road.

3. There were artillery and engineer units in barracks at Juhkentali. there was a firing range at Klooga, which is 28 kilometers west-southwest of Tallinn, on the road to Paldiski. Officers and men wearing artillery and infantry uniforms were seen there in the fall of 1954, and at Jägala and Aegviidu during 1954.

4. The following military traffic was seen on the Tallinn-Rakvere road during the winter of 1954 - 1955: armored troop carriers, capable of carrying 15 to 20 men; motorcycle combinations (sic) fitted with machine guns; large three-axled trucks towing four-wheeled open trailers which carried men and supplies; antiaircraft guns mounted on trucks; and short-barrelled field guns of about 10 cm. caliber, which were also carried on trucks.

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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5. In March 1954, a company or more of Army troops wearing black shoulder boards were seen in a camp of huts at Orissaare, which is on the north-east coast of Saaremaa Island (see sketch map on page 3). This was a new camp, surrounded by a palisade, 100 meters north of the main road from Orissaare to Kuressaare, and just west of the prewar "Kordon" camp at Orissaare, which at the time of the observation was occupied by MVD Border Troops.
6. In March 1954, 25 men wearing black shoulder boards were seen at a similar camp at Hellemaa, which is 14 kilometers east-northeast of Orissaare, on Muhu Island. This camp was estimated to contain one company, and was located on the south side of the main road from Hellemaa to Orissaare, at the intersection of the road which runs north to Rau.

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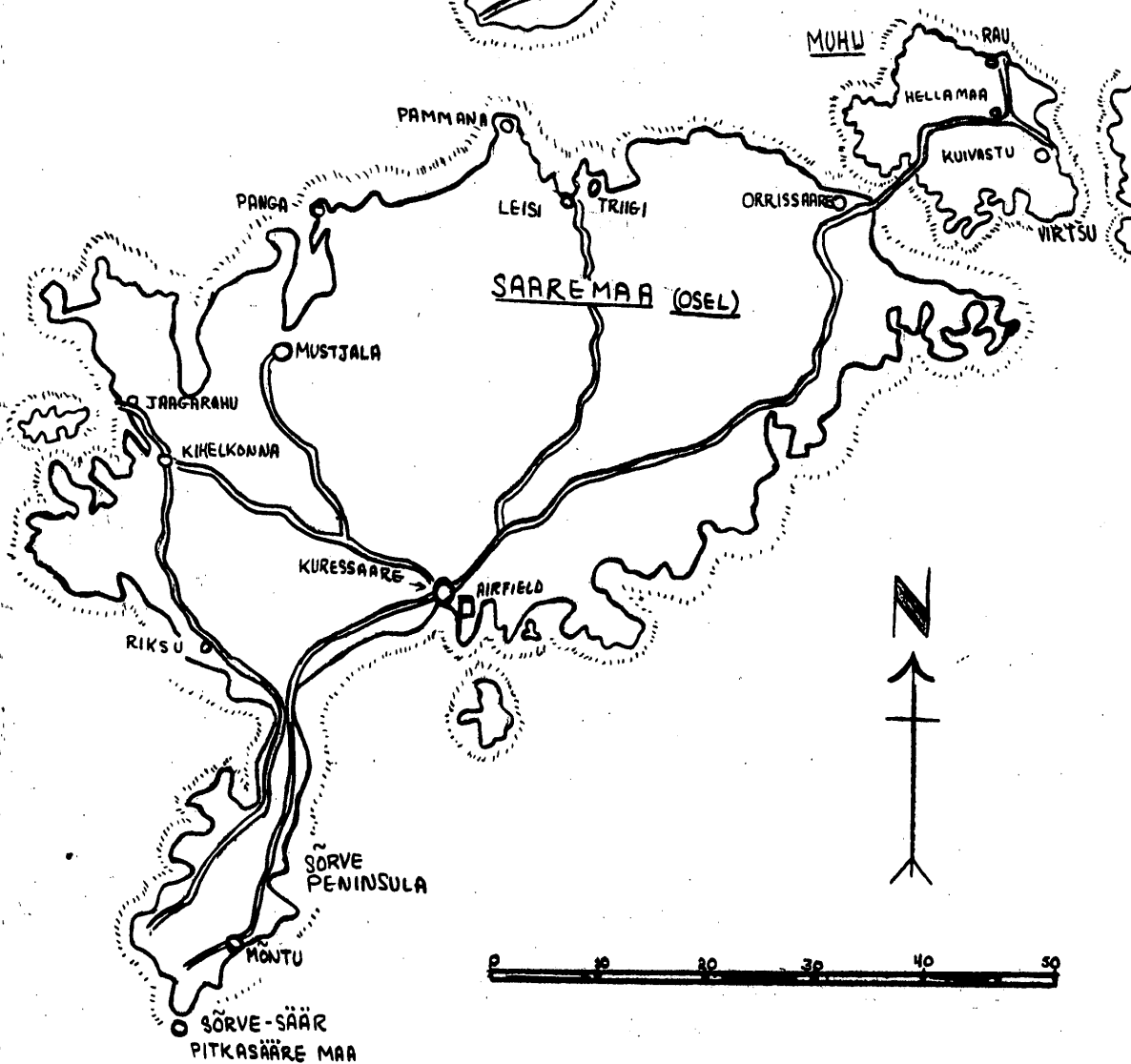
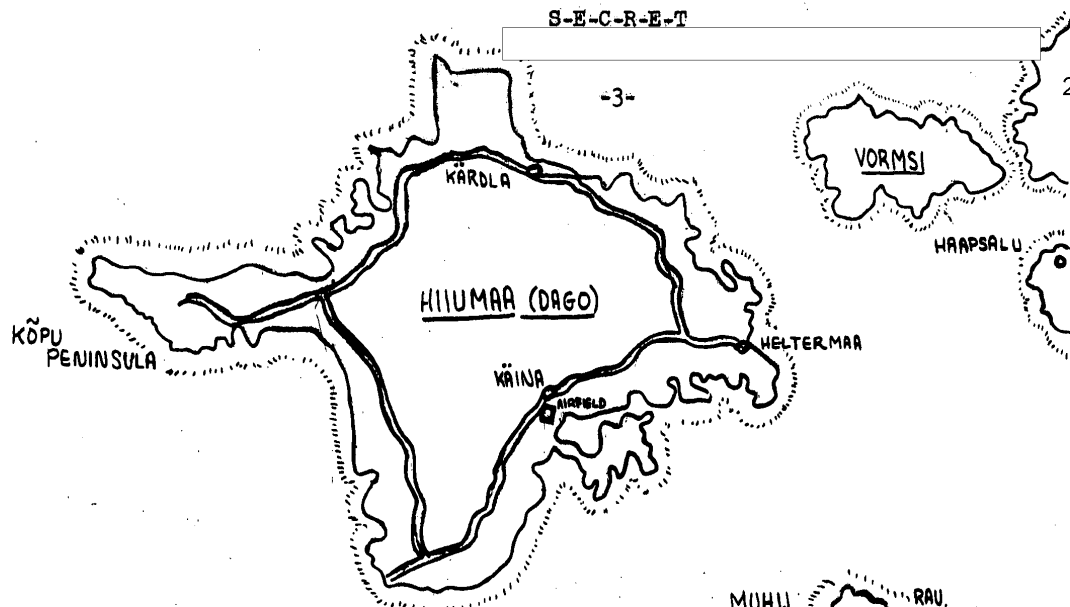
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